

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BANGKO 08141 150922Z
ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 IO-13 JUSE-00
NSAE-00 SNM-02 TRSE-00 USIA-06 NSC-05 OES-06
OMB-01 DODE-00 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 L-03 SS-15
/072 W

-----151016Z 087381 /15

R 150905Z APR 77
FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1131
INFO DEA HQS WASHDC
AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BANGKOK 8141

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: SNAR, TH
SUBJECT: DRUG TRAFFICKER SUMMARILY EXECUTED

REF: (A) BANGKOK 6659; (B) BANGKOK 6554

1. DRUG TRAFFICKER CH'EN TING-YEN (AKA THAWON UDOMLUDET, THAWON SAE KOW, AH KAN, AND ENG CHU) WAS SUMMARILY EXECUTED AT 6:32 AM ON APRIL 15. PRIME MINISTER THANIN KRAIWICHIAN ORDERED THE EXECUTION, USING FOR THE FIRST TIME HIS POWERS UNDER ARTICLE 21 OF THE INTERIM CONSTITUTION TO PUNISH SUMMARILY PERSONS FOUND TO HAVE COMMITTED SERIOUS OFFENSES THREATENING THE COUNTRY'S STABILITY AND LAW AND ORDER. HE HAD EARLIER STATED PUBLICLY THAT HE WOULD USE ARTICLE 21 TO DEAL WITH LARGE SCALE DRUG TRAFFICKERS, KILLER-RAPISTS AND ARSONISTS. THANIN ORDERED THE EXECUTION AFTER RECEIVING THE APPROVAL OF THE CABINET AS WELL AS THE PRIME MINISTER'S ADVISORY COUNCIL, AS REQUIRED BY THE CONSTITUTION.

2. CH'EN ARREST ON MARCH 25 WAS REPORTED IN REFTEL
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ACCORDING TO DEA, CH'EN IS ONE OF THE TEN LARGEST DRUG TRAFFICKERS IN ASIA. SEE REF B FOR DETAILS.

3. COMMENT: THE PRIME MINISTER'S DECISION TO USE HIS SUMMARY POWERS UNDER ARTICLE 21 TO ORDER THE EXECUTION OF A DRUG TRAFFICKER STRONGLY UNDERLINES HIS DETERMINATION TO PRESS THAILAND'S FIGHT AGAINST NARCOTICS AND TO

DEAL HARSHLY WITH MAJOR DRUG TRAFFICKERS. THE EFFECT OF
HIS ACTION WAS DRAMATICALLY HEIGHTENED BY THE TIMING OF
THE EXECUTION--RIGHT IN THE MIDDLE OF THE 1977 US EAST
ASIAN NARCOTIC CONFERENCE.
WHITEHOUSE

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DRUG TRAFFIC, EXECUTIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 15-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977BANGKO08141
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770131-0498
Format: TEL
From: BANGKOK
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770454/aaaabuzh.tel
Line Count: 67
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: c91d23a5-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 BANGKOK 6659, 77 BANGKOK 6554
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 10-Jan-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2799497
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: DRUG TRAFFICKER SUMMARILY EXECUTED
TAGS: SNAR, TH, (CH'EN TING-YEN)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/c91d23a5-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
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